

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants properly file this Preliminary Amendment concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Information Disclosure Statement (IDS). Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 151- 203 are pending. Claims 1 - 150 have been previously canceled. Applicant cancels claims 151 - 203 without prejudice or disclaimer, and adds new claims claim 204 - 253. No new matter is added.

Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance as to all pending claims be issued in this case.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: April 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Thomas J. Bean

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